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Examiner	Art Unit
Louis J. Casaregola	3746
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Reasons For Allowance

The present invention is a cooling system for a gas turbine engine. As claimed, this system comprises a cooling air chamber for supplying cooling air to a turbine casing, a cooling air tube having an inlet in an air bypass duct and an outlet connected to the cooling air chamber, and a movable deflector in the bypass duct upstream of the air tube inlet for deflecting air from the inlet. These components are all known in the prior art, but none of the references of record disclose or fairly suggest the claimed combination.

The most pertinent cited references include Redinger et al, Schaut et al, and Mills et al. Redinger discloses cooling air tube 30 having inlet 32 in a bypass duct and an outlet connected to casing cooling air manifold 34, but Redinger's system neither includes not requires a movable deflector upstream of the tube inlet. Schaut discloses air tube 96 having an inlet with movable deflector 86 in a bypass duct (Fig. 5), but the extracted airflow is merely dumped into the atmosphere and not supplied to a cooling chamber. Mills discloses a further air tube 35 with movable flap (deflector) 38, but in this case, the tube inlet opens outside the engine rather than in a bypass duct, and the deflector is totally within rather than upstream of the tube. None of Redinger, Schaut, and Mills disclose the claimed combination, and there is no logical or obvious reason to modify any of the systems disclosed by these references. The claimed invention is therefore considered patentable over the prior art of record.

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June 30, 2004

LOUIS J. CASAREGOLA
PRIMARY EXAMINER

If repeated attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Justine Yu, can be reached at 703-308-2675.

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